Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 DOTE-00 SS-15 NSC-10 L-03

H-03 DRC-01 IO-13 /102 W

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P 191630Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 865

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: ETRN, IT

SUBJECT: CIVAIR - SEABOARD'S PROPOSED NEW CARGO RATES

REF: (A) ROME 9816; (B) STATE 146381

- 1. ON SEPTEMBER 19 EMBASSY RECEIVED COPY OF FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM CIVILAVIA TO SEABOARD: QTE WITH REFERENCE TO YOUR LETTER OF AUGUST 27, 1973 CONCERNING PROPOSED REDUCTIONS IN CARGO RATES ON THE NORTH ATLANTIC SECTOR BETWEEN ITALY AND THE UNITED STATES, THIS MINISTRY RECONFIRMS ITS PREVIOUS JUDGEMENT THAT IT WOULD BE INOPPORTUNE TO MODIFY THE EXISTING TARIFF SYSTEM UNQTE (COMMENT. ALTHOUGH LETTER DATED AUGUST 27, IT WAS DELIVERED BY SEABOARD TO CIVILAVIA BY COURIER ON AUGUST 29.)
- 2. NOW THAT IATA CARGO FARES CONFERENCE HAS CONCLUDED EMBASSY BELIEVES ABOVE CAN ONLY BE INTERPRETED AS DISAPPROVAL WHICH, AS NOTED REFTEL (B), IS INCONSISTENT WITH ARTICLE 10 OF BILATERAL. CIVILAVIA NEITHER ACTED IN TIME FRAME SPECIFIED IN BILATERAL NOR CONSULTED WITH USG PRIOR TO NOTIFYING SEABOARD.
- 3. SEABOARD'S FAILURE TO KEEP EMBASSY INFORMED -- WHICH APPEARS DELIBERATE IN THIS CASE -- HAS RESULTED IN SITUATION WHERE USG CAN, IF IT SO DESIRES, TRY TO USE GOI FAILURE TO FOLLOW BILATERAL PROCEDURES AS LEVERAGE TO FORCE CIVILAVIA TO ACCEPT SEABOARD'S LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PROPOSED NEW CARGO RATES. SINCE ARTICLE 10(E) OF BILATERAL

COULD BE INVOKED BY GOI TO VOID SUCH RATES, EMBASSY CANNOT RECOMMEND COURSE OF ACTION WHICH WOULD GENERATE SUBSTANTIAL ILL-WILL WITHOUT SECURING DESIRED RATE STRUCTURE FOR SEABOARD ON LONG-TERM BASIS.

4. EMBASSY PROPOSES NOTE TO MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS (MFA) POINTING OUT CIVILAVIA FAILURE TO FOLLOW ARTICLE 10 BILATERAL PROCEDURES AND SUGGESTING THAT CIVILAVIA RESERVE FINAL JUDGEMENT ON PROPOSED NEW SEABOARD RATES UNTIL CONSULTATIONS UNDER ARTICLE 10 ARE CONCLUDED.

5. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT'S VIEWS ASAP. VOLPE

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Message Attributes

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